

WRITING SKILLS

Time management is essential – take a watch into the exam room with you. Make sure you spend the right amount of time on each part of the exam. Pay attention to the instructions, then you will really answer the questions!

Tips

- Concentrate. Block out any distractions.
- Organise your time!
- Make sure you understand the instructions.
- Answer the question!



The PAAU exam 2009

- The writing exercise is a 40% of the final mark.
- There are two options. You have to choose only ONE
- Write the option you choose before starting the exercise

Example:

Part 2: Writing

Choose ONE topic. Write about number 1 or 2. Minimum length: 100 words.
[4 points]

1. Think of a profession that is dying out, for example a shepherd or a farmer. Write a dialogue with one of the last shepherds / farmers in your country. Talk about their way of life now and before.

2. You have just read a book with the title *Death of a Beekeeper* by Swedish author Lars Gustafsson. Write a letter to your best friend explaining to him/her what the book is about.

Option 1

- Minimum length of 100 words.
- Correction criteria: **Composition: 4 points**
 - b.1 Grammar (25 % of the composition grade)**
 - b.2 Vocabulary (25 % of the composition grade)**
 - b.3 Text / Paragraph building (25 % of the composition grade)**
 - b.4 Maturity (25 % of the composition grade)**

WRITING SKILLS

Writing formats

Formal letter writing

Semi-formal letter writing

Informal letter writing

A dialogue

An opinion essay

An advantages and disadvantages essay

A description

Of a person

Of a place

Of an experience / place

Making a speech

A summary

Letter to the editor



Examples of writing assignments. Write the type of format you'd use for each instruction.

- Think of a profession that is dying out, for example a shepherd or a farmer. Write a dialogue with one of the last shepherds / farmers in your country. Talk about their way of life now and before.

- You have just read a book with the title *Death of a Beekeeper* by Swedish author Lars Gustafsson. Write a letter to your best friend explaining to him/her what the book is about.

- Write about the influence of psychologists on our society. Are they well considered? Could they be the answer to our psychological necessities?

- Imagine you have a toxic friend that is ruining your life. Write a letter to him/her explaining the problem and proposing solutions to re-establish your mutual confidence.

- You are an Erasmus student at the University of Bergen (Norway). One professor asks you to talk to your class about the Catalan language

and culture. Write the text of your presentation.

- Imagine you are a journalist. Write an interview with a European commissioner for the protection of minority languages. Your objective is to find out what the European Union is doing in order to protect the rights of those linguistic groups.

- Two teachers are discussing the rights and wrongs of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as a school subject. Write down their conversation.

- French writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry said that “the best things people have made [the airplane, the telephone...] are all things that bring people together.” Discuss this statement and say what are to your mind, the best things people have made. Would you say that Internet makes our social life richer or poorer?

- You are a journalist. Write a short newspaper story about the labor exploitation of some groups of immigrants in Spain.

- You are the representative of your country before the United Nations Organization (UNO). Write a speech addressed to the UNO general delegates denouncing the resurgence of slavery.

